

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SAIGON 12256 100051Z

71

ACTION EA-07

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ADP-00 NSC-10 NSCE-00 PM-03 L-02 DPW-01

IO-03 PRS-01 EUR-10 DODE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

RSC-01 RSR-01 /064 W

----- 036714

R 090357Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4276

INFO USDEL JEC PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 12256

LIMDIS

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION SAIGON INFO DAO SAIGON, SSAG
NAKHON PHANOM FROM CAN THO JUL 7 BEING REPEATED TO YOU

QUOTE

CAN THO 0550

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, MOPS, CA, HU, ID, PL, VS

SUBJECT: WEEKLY SITREP FOR JULY 1-7, 1973

SUMMARY: THE DELTA WAS RELATIVELY TRANQUIL LAST WEEK, BUT MR IV
BRIEFING FIGURES OBSCURE THE REAL COMBAT SITUATION. A FULL ICCS
TEAM FINALLY DEPLOYED TO HONG NGU. MR IV DISMANTLED THE SITZ IN
BA XUYEN AND BAC LIEU.

1. SECURITY SITUATION:

A. MILITARY ACTIVITY DECLINED DRAMATICALLY IN THE DELTA
DURING THE FIRST WEEK OF JULY. AFTER SPIRITED FIGHTING OVER THE
WEEKEND OF JUNE 30-JULY 1, WITH 42 INCIDENTS REPORTED SUNDAY,
JULY 1, THE NUMBER OF ALLEGED VC CEASEFIRE VIOLATIONS REPORTED BY
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 SAIGON 12256 100051Z

MR IV DROPPED TO A DAILY AVERAGE OF 25 DURING THE FIRST WEEK OF

JULY. JULY 5 SAW A RECORD LOW OF ONLY 12 VIOLATIONS REPORTED.

B. WHILE THE LEVEL OF FIGHTING IN THE DELTA HAS UNDENIABLY DROPPED SINCE THE ADVENT OF CEASEFIRE II, AND ESPECIALLY IN THE PAST WEEK, THE REPORTED INCIDENTS AND CASUALTIES FROM MR IV DO NOT TELL THE COMPLETE TALE. WE ARE CONSTANTLY REMINDED, THROUGH THE REPORTS FROM OUR VICE CONSULS AND OTHER REPRESENTATIVES IN THE PROVINCES, OF THE ECCENTRICITIES OF MR IV BOOKKEEPING. BOOBY TRAPS, MORTARINGS, HARASSMENTS, INFILTRATIONS, KIDNAPPINGS, ASSASSINATIONS, AND RVNAF SECURITY PATROLS CONTINUE TO TAKE A TOLL HIGHER THAN THAT REPORTED IN THE DAILY MR IV BRIEFINGS. THE NUMBER AND RESULTS OF ARVN "SECURITY OPERATIONS" ARE NO LONGER REVEALED IN THE DAILY BRIEFINGS. WE WISH TO UNDERLINE THE FACT THAT THESE REGION-LEVEL FIGURES PROVIDED BY THE GVN ILLUSTRATE MILITARY TRENDS, BUT THEY ARE NOT AN ACCURATE ACCOUNT OF DELTA MILITARY ACTIVITY.

2. ICCS:

A. REGION VI AND VII ICCS TEAMS CONTINUED TO WORK, WITH THE USUAL LACK OF AFFIRMATIVE RESULTS. THE CANADIANS PUSHED INQUIRIES INTO ALLEGED CEASEFIRE VIOLATIONS, BUT INDICATED THEY WOULD NOT PARTICIPATE IN INVESTIGATIONS AFTER JULY 19. THEY PLAN TO DEPART FROM CAN THO AND MY THO PREPARATORY TO LEAVING VIETNAM JULY 25 OR 26. THE INDONESIANS DID LITTLE, A FACT THAT BODES ILL FOR THE ARRIVAL OF A NEW INEXPERIENCED INDONESIAN TEAM IN LATE JULY OR EARLY AUGUST. THE POLES AND HUNGARIANS BIDED THEIR TIME.

B. REGION VI INDONESIAN, POLISH, AND HUNGARIAN TEAMS DEPLOYED JULY 2 IN HONG NGU DISTRICT TOWN, KIEN PHONG PROVINCE. THE CANADIANS HAD GONE UP JUNE 16, BUT THE OTHERS HAD DECLINED TO FOLLOW UNTIL SOME ARTILLERY PIECES WERE REMOVED FROM A SITE NEAR THE ICCS COMPOUND, THE OFFENDING GUNDS WERE PULLED OUT AND SENT TO CAO LANH.

3. GVN ACTIVITIES:

MR IV COMMANDER MGEN NGUYEN VINH NGHI HAS ORDERED THE DISMANTLING OF THE SPECIAL INTERPROVINCIAL TACTICAL ZONE (SITZ).
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 SAIGON 12256 100051Z

THE SITZ WAS A SPECIAL AREA OF OPERATIONS CREATED APRIL 10 TO FACILITATE THE CLEANING OUT OF THE VC IN AREAS OF BA XUYEN AND BAC LIEU ASTRIDE THE MY THANH RIVER. NGHI, POSSIBLY BOWING TO THE RELUCTANCE OF THE TWO PROVINCE CHIEFS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE OPERATION, DECIDED TO KILL THE SITZ WITH THE VC STILL IN CONTROL OF SOME AREAS, ESPECIALLY IN BAC LIEU'S VINH CHAU DISTRICT.
LEHMANN

UNQUOTE.
WHITEHOUSE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 JUL 1973
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973SAIGON12256
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS LEHMANN
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: SAIGON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730746/aaaabhms.tel
Line Count: 117
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 DEC 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <06-Dec-2001 by shawdg>; APPROVED <28-Dec-2001 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: WEEKLY SITREP FOR JULY 1-7, 1973 SUMMARY: THE DELTA WAS RELATIVELY TRANQUIL LAST WEEK, BUT MR IV
TAGS: MARR, MOPS, CA, HU, ID, PL, VS
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005